



**Newport Chemical Depot**

# **News Release**

**SUBJ: AIR SAMPLES NEGATIVE FOR VX**

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**Newport Chemical Depot, Ind.** -- A chemical agent monitor sounded today in an area where workers were dismantling the former VX production facility at the Newport Chemical Depot.

According to Tom Kutz, the commander's executive assistant, there was no VX in tested air samples and no danger to the public. Kutz said that standard precautions were taken to protect workers who were in the area when the monitor sounded. "While we waited for air sample test results, our medical staff checked 10 workers to rule out possible exposure," he said. The workers were released by the staff physician.

The former VX production facility has not been in use since the late 1960s. Government workers are dismantling the plant as part of the Army's Nonstockpile disposal project. Under the terms of the Chemical Weapons Convention, the facility must be completely demolished by April, 2007.